The Southern PATRIOT

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Our Birthday Vow: 'You Are Not Alone!'

With this issue, the Patriot begins its 10th year of publication.

We like to think that the nine years past have been fruitful years. We are willing to swear that we have not retreated from the goals we initially set.

But, all in all, the one indisputable fact is that we have survived. And that fact, attesting to the enduring faith in racial justice of you thousands of readers who make this publication possible, places credit where credit is due.

We have tried to make the Patriot the true and dignified image of those angry, courageous people who believe that the Solid South has become the Fluid South.

We have tried to express their hopes, their fears, their triumphs and disappointments.

Above all, we have sought to relay words of good cheer from one fighting man of good will in one section of the South to his embattled brother in another sector.

If we were to choose a motto, it would be: "You Are Not Alone!"

Indeed, the stirring events of recent years have shown we are not alone in our belief that Jim Crow must go.

The Sweatt Case came along and opened dozens of campuses to Negro students. The Henderson Case took the bumps out of travel. Jackie Robinson batted segregation out of the playing fields.

These, and many other test cases of simple democracy, disproved the strictures of those who said back in 1942, "You're going at the problem **too fast.**"

But there remain many injustices. Many Clarendon Counties, where 60 per cent of the population gets 20 per cent of the schools. Many Matthew Averies, left to die by "lily-white" medical establishments. Many Willie McGees.

These refute those who say, "You've gone **far enough.**"

And, with the continued support of you readers, we'll keep on going.

Jim Crow's Yule Gift

Bigotry & Bombs In Florida

Christmas night in Mims, Florida, was warm and calm. The Prince of Peace was reborn again. Santa Claus had come. Tokens of love were all unwrapped beneath the festive tree.

Then on the scene slunk sheeted murderers! They bore their bloody offering, a dynamite bomb, beneath the bedroom of Harry T. Moore and his wife. And at 10:30 p.m. they exploded it.

Moore, state coordinator for the NCAAP, died on the way to the hospital. His wife, Harriett, died on January 3rd.

Responsibility for this deed points due west to neighboring Groveland, where, only the month before, Samuel Shepherd had been slain, and Walter Irvin badly wounded on the eve of their second trial for rape.

Harry Moore had led their defense in the grotesque case that Jim Crow officials and newspapers had allowed become an orgy of lynch rule, pillage and murder.

Precedent for this deed came from the south—from Miami, where, on a dozen occasions, Negro housing developments, Jewish synagogues and Catholic churches were bombed by the KKK. And police officials remained blandly baffled by the events, coddling the Klan and hampering its opponents.

Moore's death bestirred somnolent Governor Fuller Warren to action. He offered rewards for the capture of the killers. He promised a thorough investigation.

But one is left to wonder at the sincerity of the officialdom when Stetson Kennedy, reporting for the Afro-American, declares that he saw the Klan card of one of the governor's attaches.

And the attache, after Kennedy had tricked him into thinking he, too, was a Klansman, had this to say: about the Groveland case:

"I don't mind telling you, on the basis of that card you just showed me, that when Irvin and Shepherd were first delivered to the state penitentiary at Raiford by Sheriff McCall, they had had the hell beaten out of them.

"When the Raiford officials stripped them for a routine induction physical, they found both prisoners covered with scars and wounds. To protect themselves, they promptly took photographs, sworn statements from Irvin and Shepherd and filed reports.

"We had a devil of a time keeping them out of circulation."

Thus spoke the governor's special investigator in the case!

It is a bitter thing, too, that the violence in these Florida incidents has been the almost exclusive focus of official and editorial attack.

None seem to reflect that the blasted home and the bludgeoned body are, in essence, symbols of the explosive, inhumane social order racial and religious bigotry imposes.

When the law and established custom oblige one man to "cut dead" another, it require no great act of imagination on the part of the perverted mind to go out and literally try to slay persons socially discriminated against.

For this reason we reprint and heartily endorse the telegram sent to Governor Warren by a group of outstanding residents of Florida. The telegram, for which the SCEF served as secretariat, reads:

"We, the undersigned residents of Florida, are concerned over the epidemic of acts of violence against religious and racial groups in our state.

"We respectfully suggest that in addition to the immediate steps taken, you consider calling an emergency conference, including ministers, educators and others especially concerned with human

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The High & Low In Public Schools

Seldom have we ran across more contrasting statements of policy than those issued, respectively, by the Fort Bragg school for the children of Army personnel and by the New Orleans school board.

The Fort Bragg school, where Negro and white children are happily and peacefully attending the same classes, has this to say in its "Handbook for Parents":

"Public schools were established in order that all citizens should be made active and enlightened participants in their heritage of democracy. In order that it may achieve that goal for every student, Fort Bragg School has the following aims to which its staff has pledged itself:

"To see that every child finds in this school an opportunity to learn democracy by participating in activities which show how democratic principles work.

"To so teach the skills and abilities needed, that each child will be able to take an active and enlightened part in the affairs of the social group to which he or she may belong.

"To teach cooperation by giving opportunity to work together to accomplish well-defined purposes.

"To give every child a chance to have experiences both as leaders and followers.

"To train each child to accept responsibility and to proceed as far as possible in successfully carrying out that responsibility.

"These are primary demands if tomorrow's citizens are to advance American democracy."

The New Orleans school board, in denying the petition of a group of Negro parents seeking an end to segregation in the public schools, had this credo to offer:

"The board believes . . . that such a departure from tradition and custom, apart from the fact that such action would be illegal, could result only in chaos and confusion and further, quite probably would cause a very serious worsening of race relationships in the community as a whole."

If democracy would be "a departure from tradition and custom," just where is the New Orleans school system heading?

AALS Defeats Move to End Bias in Nation's Law Schools

Betraying its obligations of democratic leadership, and bowing to pressure from Dixiecrat members, the Association of American Law Schools, at its annual meeting at Denver, Colorado, on December 28, defeated a movement to end segregation in the Nation's law schools.

One year ago at its annual meeting at Chicago, the AALS adopted a resolution submitted by the Yale University Law School faculty committing the Association to an anti-segregation policy. A further proposal in the Yale resolution which would have denied membership in the Association to schools which exclude or segregate Negroes, was referred to a committee to report at the 1951 session.

The committee held extended hearings during the year. The Director of the SCEF was among those appearing before the committee in a plea to end segregation. But the committee's report to the Denver meeting advocated only that the Articles of the Association be amended as one of the objectives which "the Association shall encourage its members to maintain", shall be: "a student body selected without discrimination on the ground of race or color."

The committee's report, which was adopted by the Denver meeting, included no recommendation whatsoever for implementing the objective quoted above. Moreover, since the Association at "the 1950 meeting had adopted an anti-segregation policy, the only effect of the Denver action was to make that policy a constitutional provision.

The Denver meeting defeated two resolutions, one by Dean Wesley Sturges of Yale, and the other by Professor Walter Gellhorn of Columbia, which would have denied membership in the Association to schools which discriminate.

Adhering firmly to a policy of total appeasement of its most conservative faction, the Association refused to apply even moral pressure on reactionary southern schools, and turned down a mild resolution submitted by the faculty of the University of Minnesota Law School which would require member schools to "make appropriate efforts to eliminate discrimination."

Since the right of Negroes to attend State supported law schools has been won by court action, the Yale proposal was aimed chiefly at the fourteen private schools in the south, most of them supported by religious bodies.

Since 1948, as a result primarily of the decision in the Sweatt Case, in eight States Negroes have been admitted to some of the law schools which had previously excluded them. The States are Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Texas and Virginia. The committee's report included letters from the deans of these schools indicating that the admission of Negroes had brought no untoward incidents.

Quotations from letters from six representative schools follow:

1. ". . . the admission of Negroes has been accepted without friction by the faculty, students and University community. Although considerable opposition was anticipated, very little came from alumni or other outside sources at the time of the Johnson case and there appears to have been none in the past year and a half."

2. "Our policy of accepting Negroes who meet our standards for admission and our policy of treating all students alike, regardless of race, has worked out very well in practice . . . The white students of their own volition have seen to it that the Negro students were invited to all Law School functions, social and otherwise."

3. "The new policy of admitting Negro students without segregation has worked out excellently in practice. We did not try to do everything at once, . . . Since (our school) was the first state educational institution in the South to admit Negroes, and since they were admitted without legal pressure, we felt that at the beginning we might be on treacherous ground. Every action taken was considered carefully and possible consequences were guarded against in advance . . . I think that today in general the students and faculty of the

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Letters

CORRECTION

To the Editor:

I'd be interested to hear of any university hospital in this country, or any other country for that matter, in which medical students are not used to assist in deliveries.

PAUL DIDISHEIM, Baltimore, Md.

Editor's Note:

We are grateful to the above reader, a medical student at Johns Hopkins, for calling our attention to a misleading statement in our hospital story in the Nov. issue which gave the impression that it was unusual for a medical student to assist in deliveries. Such practice is regular procedure.

* * *

WILL FIGHT HOSPITAL BIAS

To the Editor:

I was very much impressed with "The Untouchable". Negroes in Chicago are not much better off for hospitalization than they are in the South. I am happy to learn that Negroes are beginning to fight this evil. . .

I am enclosing our first Newsletter which may be of some interest to you. . .

A. M. MERCER, M.D., Chicago, Ill., Treasurer.
Committee to End Discrimination in Chicago Medical Institutions

Editor's Note:

We are glad to learn from the Newsletter that Chicago must be added to the list of cities, including Louisville, Ky., Wilmington, Del., and Los Angeles, Cal., which have organized citizen committees to eliminate discrimination in medical services. The Chicago committee will gather and publicize information, promote legislative action, work to secure hospital staff openings for Negro physicians, and to obtain qualified applicants of minority groups for the medical schools.

* * *

GIFT FOR PEONAGE VICTIMS

The editor wishes to thank the anonymous reader of the Patriot who sent us $10.00 for the children of James Edward Day, Jr., the victim of Georgia peonage. (see "Children Held Hostage for $200.00) in Oct. S.P.) The money was sent to SCEF board member, Thomas W. Johnson of Macon, Ga., for transmission to the children.

Two more Southern cities must permit Negroes to use city golf courses as a result of action in federal courts. On Dec. 20 the US 5th circuit court of appeals, in a decision reversing the Texas district court, ruled that Houston must open its golf courses, but permitted the city a reasonable time to put into effect the principles of segregation. Houston maintains 3 golf courses for whites and none for Negroes.

On Nov. 15 the city of Portsmouth, Va., announced that Negroes could use Glenshelah Course on Mondays and City Park course on Fridays. Whites will not be permitted to use the courses on those days. The announcement came 24 hours after four Negroes won in federal district court an injunction forbidding the city to continue its policy of racial exclusion.

Previously Miami and Baltimore had taken similar action and other court cases are pending in New Orleans, La., Louisville, Ky., and Charlotte, N. C.

* * *

A fact overlooked in the press accounts of the headon crash of two fast Southern Railway trains in Alabama Nov. 25 was that 15 of the 18 persons killed were occupying seats in the forward Jim Crow coaches "reserved" for Negroes.

* * *

Anna Marie Ecby placed first and Manard George Brown third in the 5th annual Baytown (Tex.) "Voice of Democracy" contest, the first time that a Negro won top honors. Both students represented Charles R. Drew High School of Crosby, Tex.

Dorothy S. Blue, of West Charlotte High, won first place and the right to represent Charlotte in the state finals of the "I Speak for Democracy" contest sponsored by the Charlotte Junior Chamber of Commerce and local radio stations.

* * *

The Pittsburgh Courier charges that 330,000 Negro 4-H members in 17 Southern states are not permitted to participate in the National 4-H club Congress at Chicago. Twenty-eight white boys and girls went from N. C. to the Congress with all expenses paid and represented themselves as representatives of 130,000 club members, a figure which included 45,000 Negro members who were not permitted to compete.

The Courier also stated that most of the large foundations and corporations, interested in rural problems, including the Ford Foundation, Sears-Roebuck and International Harvester, donate to this youth movement "but do not provide twin grants and when confronted with the dual problem admit they had never considered it."

* * *

Preliminary figures of the Census Bureau revealed that the top 20% of the nations families and unrelated individuals received 47% of the total money income but the poorest 20% received only 3%.

In the South the richest one-fifth received 50% of the income which the Bureau attributed partly to the fact that the South had a greater proportion of farm dwellers and "also to the fact that the South contained about three-fifths of the non-white families and unrelated individuals who are concentrated in the lower income groups".

The figures on a national basis were: lowest one-fifth, 3%; next fifth, 9%. third fifth, 17%; next to highest fifth, 24%; and highest fifth, 47%.

* * *

At the University of Connecticut 4 local chapters of Sigma Chi, Sigma Nu, Kappa Sigma and Lambda Chi Alpha have severed affiliation with their national bodies because of discriminatory policies.

At Syracuse University an anti-bias bill was passed by the student government group and was approved by the Interfraternity council.

Cornell University's Interfraternity Council adopted a resolution calling upon the National Interfraternity Council to adopt a policy that would require member fraternities to "remove constitutional clauses restricting membership for racial or religious reasons at their annual conventions or withdraw from the NIC".

* * *

Dr. C. Lydon Harrell, president of the Medical Society of Virginia, at the 1951 annual meeting of the Society advocated that the word "white" be deleted from membership requirements. Earlier the House of Delegates asked all local societies in the state to consider and report at next year's meeting whether they will admit "well qualified Negro physicians" of their communities to membership and whether they wish to delete the word "white" from the society's constitution. Meanwhile, the Medical Society of Northern Virginia has voted to drop the racial bar.

* * *

The Maryland State Teachers Association, at its annual meeting last month, voted 199 to 41 to admit Negro teachers to membership. This month the St. Louis, Mo., Dental Society by a vote of 231 to 80 took similar action.

TRENDS